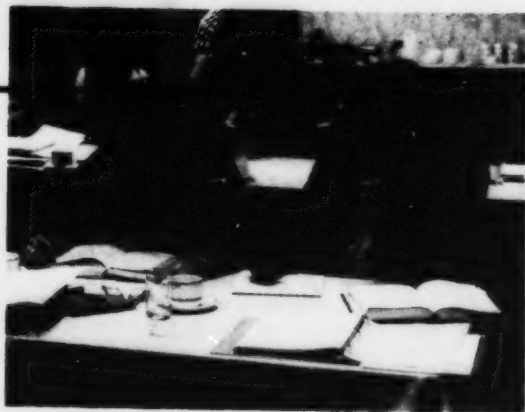




1987-88 ANNUAL REPORT

*Legal Services Society
of British Columbia*

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Cover photos by Bill Metcalfe, Chris Cameron, Andrea Lowe

This document is a summary of Legal Services Society activities for the year 1987-88. To obtain a copy of the most recent Annual Report, write to:

Publications Clerk
Legal Services Society
Suite 300
1140 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B. C.
V6E 4G1

Mandate

The Legal Services Society was established on October 1, 1979, when the provincial legislature unanimously passed the Legal Services Society Act. The Society's mandate is to ensure:

- a) that services ordinarily provided by a lawyer are afforded to individuals who would not otherwise receive them because of financial or other reasons, and*
- b) that education, advice and information about the law are provided for the people of British Columbia.*

Board of Directors 1987/88*

Lois Hollstedt
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A.G. Henderson
Vice-Chair
The Honourable J.C. Bouck
Her Honour Judge Loretta
Chaparon
The Honourable Bruce Cohen
Gerald J. Kambeitz
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Mark McEwan
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Ostler
Charlotte Smith
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- * The Legal Services Society Act provides for the appointment of 14 members to the Board of Directors, seven appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in council and seven appointed by the Law Society of British Columbia.

MESSAGE from the CHAIR

The principle of equal access to the legal aid system is a fundamental right in a free society.

The Legal Services Society takes pride in the work that it does to help ensure access to justice. It is due to the commitment of many groups and individuals that the Society continues to provide legal aid and legal information and education to many thousands of people in British Columbia.

The staff and volunteers of the Society, the community law offices and other agencies funded by the Society, the legal profession, and our funders have all made an invaluable contribution to providing public legal services in this province.

Nevertheless, equal access to the justice system is not yet a fact in British Columbia. Although the Society has developed a good working relationship with government, the overall level of provincial financial support remains far from adequate to achieve equality.

The Society undertook several initiatives during the past year in an attempt to stabilize funding, to better inform politicians and other decision-makers about our work, to improve services, and to appropriately recognize the valuable and on-going support of the private bar.

After Legal Services held extensive discussions with government and the Law Foundation regarding the need for secure funding, the Law Foundation agreed to make a \$3 million annual grant to the Society up to the 1990/91 fiscal year. This agreement will provide for greater stability in the Society's funding.

At the same time, the Society explored the possibility of stable funding from the provincial government, and developed a three-year budget projection.

In addition, persistent demand for the services cut during 1982 and 1983 led the Society to approach the government for funding to re-open three offices and to expand eligibility and coverage for family law cases. While there has been general support from government to strengthen family legal services, as yet there has been no firm funding commitment.

In 1987, new legislation designated fifty percent of revenues from the Notaries Foundation to the Legal Services Society. This new revenue source produced \$200,000 during the last fiscal year.

In order to increase government support for our work, we have undertaken a number of initiatives to provide politicians with more and better information about the Society and its functions. Meetings have taken place with the government caucus, the Cabinet Committee on Social Policy and with individual MLA's from both main political parties. In addition, the Society prepared a presentation to the Justice Reform Committee about the need for greater access to the justice system for low-income and disadvantaged people.

In 1987 British Columbia's legal aid tariffs were still far behind those of most of the other provinces. Both the Legal Services Society and the bar recognized that rates paid in the past under both the family and criminal law tariffs needed significant improvement.

A new criminal tariff came into effect November 1, 1987 as a result of extensive discussions between representatives of the B.C. Branch of the Canadian Bar Association and the Society. The joint

committee agreed to produce a simpler tariff that would pay private counsel 25% more than the previous tariff for criminal legal aid cases.

The family law tariff has been particularly inadequate - to the extent that in several communities the Society has been unable to find counsel willing to take on family law legal aid cases. The joint committee designed a new family law tariff to better compensate counsel for time spent on family legal aid cases. The new tariff recognizes the nature of family law practice by including fees for preparation and negotiation as well as other out-of-court work. The new family law tariff took effect April 1, 1988.

The joint tariff committee will continue to monitor both tariffs and will examine any further adjustments that might be appropriate.

On the administrative side, the Society has embarked on a program to reduce the time required for payment of lawyers' accounts.

Until the past year, family court duty counsel were available only in the Vancouver area courts. Plans are under way to extend this service to Surrey and Prince Rupert family courts in the coming year.

In Prince George, discussions have begun with the Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council and the local community to determine the need for family court duty counsel service, and how it might work for the Carrier-Sekani people.

Access to justice requires that people can obtain legal information that is understandable and appropriate for their needs. The Canadian Bar Association has proposed a Joint Committee on Plain Language with the Canadian Bankers Association to develop plain language prototypes of consumer documents for the banking industry.

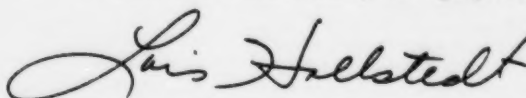
We hope the committee will serve as a model of private sector initiative in making legal and banking documents clear and easy to use. The Society is supportive of initiatives to improve access to legal information, and a staff person is involved in establishing the joint committee.

The Society continues to work closely with educators, librarians and community groups throughout the province to provide legal information and education that are appropriate for the needs and interests of the people we serve.

Public legal services make economic sense, as well as being the cornerstone of a democratic society. If people's rights are respected and if they have real access to the system that upholds and protects those rights, they will respect the law and will be content to work within the legal system.

But if poverty makes access unattainable, people lose respect for the rule of law, and choose crime rather than other methods of solving problems. The result is added costs for the entire social service system. When individuals are unable to present or resolve their legal problems, their dependence on social programs, and on government resources and staff time increases.

A fair and equitable justice system must be one of the first priorities of a democratic government. And adequate funding is necessary to ensure equal access to the system. Protecting the values that lie at the heart of our democratic system protects individual freedom and the ideal of free enterprise. It is within the power of this province to ensure that equal access exists for all those who face barriers when dealing with legal problems.



Lois Hollstedt
Chair, 1987-88

CLIENT SERVICES *Legal Aid*

Legal aid is a service for low-income people in B.C. who have an urgent legal problem.

Who Can Get Legal Aid?

You can get legal aid if your family income is below the poverty line (as established by Statistics Canada) and your legal problem is defined as urgent by the Legal Services Society. Because of the cutbacks during 1982-83 and continued financial restraint, current legal aid coverage is limited to the following:

- Criminal Matters — where a conviction may lead to imprisonment
- Family Matters — restricted to urgent cases including urgent custody and access cases, and restraining orders
- Other Civil Legal Problems — where the problem presents a real jeopardy to a person's livelihood, health, safety, sustenance or shelter.

In 1987/88 there were more than 80,000 applications for legal aid. (See table.)

A list of all the offices in the province that provide legal aid services can be found on the back page of this report. Some of these are Legal Services Society branch offices, and some are community law offices and native community law offices funded by the Society. In some communities not served by a Society office, private lawyers serve as area directors. They accept applications for legal aid and will find lawyers for those who are eligible.

The Demand for Legal Aid 1987/88

Type of Legal Problem	Total Number of Applications	Number Accepted	Percentage Accepted
Criminal	36,533	27,310	74.8%
Family	22,367	11,361	50.8%
Other Civil*	21,478	4,816	22.4%
TOTAL:	80,378	43,487	54.1%

1986/87

Type of Legal Problem	Total Number of Applications	Number Accepted	Percentage Accepted
Criminal	35,903	26,754	74.5%
Family	21,392	10,079	47.1%
Other Civil*	22,187	4,781	21.5%
TOTAL:	79,482	41,614	52.4%

* This includes legal problems related to pensions, workers' compensation, income assistance, unemployment insurance and foreclosure matters.

The Role of the Private Bar

Lawyers from the private bar are retained by the Society to represent eligible clients in the criminal and family law areas. The lawyers are then paid a fee for service at a rate determined by the Society. For years the fees have been so low, especially for family lawyers, that some communities had no lawyers willing to do legal aid.

In August 1987, the fees paid by the Society to private bar lawyers were increased for the first time in five years. There was a second increase in January 1988.

The problem of attracting private bar lawyers to take on legal aid cases has been alleviated somewhat by these increases. In addition, lawyers in private practice have acted without fees in hundreds of urgent civil law cases.

The Role of the Staff

The staff in the Society's branch offices, the funded community law offices and native community law offices administer the legal aid tariff. They also provide legal services to clients for a wide range of legal problems not covered by the legal aid tariff.

Typical cases that may be handled by staff include Workers' Compensation claims, income assistance appeals, unemployment insurance cases, defences in civil actions — including bankruptcy, foreclosure and debt — and advice in family law matters.

Duty Counsel

Duty counsel are lawyers who are available in the courts to advise accused people held in custody. The duty counsel give advice about charges, court procedures and the right to apply for legal aid. Where possible, duty counsel also give legal help to accused who are not in custody but are making their first appearance in court.

In criminal and youth court, duty counsel are available in over 50 locations in the province. Until late 1987, duty counsel for family court were available only in Vancouver. In 1988 the Society will launch two pilot projects — in Prince Rupert and Surrey — to provide duty counsel in family court, particularly for first hearings where children have been apprehended.



photo by Dan Scott, Vancouver Sun

Refugee Claimants and Legal Aid

The U.N. Convention, which Canada signed in 1969, defines refugees as people who have fled their homes because they fear persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political belief or membership in a particular group.

People who flee to Canada and claim refugee status when they get here have a right to a determination of their status through a formal procedure outlined in the Immigration Act. The entire procedure involves a number of steps, and people often need legal help to deal with it.

During the past year, over 800 people who had fled their homes came to the Society requesting legal help with their

refugee claims. Most of the claimants were from Central America, Iran and Sri Lanka.

Of the 800 applicants, 140 were helped by Society staff and another 150 were referred to private lawyers who volunteered to take on the cases free of charge. Almost 500 were turned away. They were given self-help materials to guide them through the procedure on their own.

The Society does not have the resources to help everyone who is in the position of claiming refugee status with no funds. Those who do get legal aid are only those who face the most dire consequences if they are sent back to their homeland — those who would be killed or "disappear."

This is the best the Legal Services Society can do with the resources available. We are taking steps to recruit and train people in the community to act as advocates for refugee claimants. Nevertheless, despite our efforts, the situation is not improving. Refugee claimants have a critical legal problem, and more than half of them do not receive our assistance.

LEGAL INFORMATION Services

Public Legal Education

People need legal information for a variety of reasons: to exercise their rights, to assume their responsibilities, to recognize when they have a legal problem and to get help in order to solve a problem. The Legal Services Society provides a broad range of legal information services for British Columbians.

Individuals can get legal information by calling, writing, or coming into one of our offices. We also work with teachers, librarians and special needs groups to find out what legal information needs exist, and to get the information out to the people who want it.

The Publications Catalogue has a complete listing of print materials available from the Legal Services Society. Free copies of the catalogue may be obtained by writing to: Publications Clerk, Legal Services Society, Suite 300 - 1140 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6E 4G1.

The goal of this program is to bring legal information to hard-to-reach special needs groups and to remote communities in B.C. Program activities target disadvantaged groups for whom there remain many barriers to legal services.

An increasing number of people in B.C. need legal services but cannot afford them and do not qualify for legal aid. Further, there are people who do not or are not able to make use of existing legal information resources for reasons such as rural isolation, illiteracy, or special legal needs.

The Public Legal Education (PLE) Program works to fill the gaps by providing:

- self-help printed materials
- workshops
- advocacy training
- funding for community groups to carry out public legal education projects which serve people with specific needs (for example, the elderly, recent immigrants, native people, the unemployed, battered women).

1987/88 Highlights

- 35 community organizations received grants totalling \$154,514 to carry out public legal education projects.
- 33 workshops were conducted for community organizations on a wide range of topics including family law, unemployment insurance, the Young Offenders Act and labour law for women. Three of the presentations were also taped for television broadcast.
- The revised edition of *Income Assistance Appeals* was published.
- *Hard Times*, an information comic about welfare rights in B.C., was published. This is the second in a series of information comics produced by the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en Tribal Council, with financial assistance from the PLE program.
- Three pamphlets about assault were published in English, Chinese and Punjabi: *What is sexual assault?*, *What is child sexual abuse?* and *Wife Battering*. They were produced by W.A.V.A.W. (Women Against Violence Against Women), with financial assistance from the PLE program.
- *Plain language* training sessions were held for Legal Information Services staff and representatives from the Ombudsman's office, the Ministry of Attorney General and Continuing Legal Education. A commitment to providing access to the law must include providing legal information in language that is understandable.

Traditional legal language is difficult to understand. A plain language approach to print information means writing in language that is appropriate for the needs of the reader, and designing material so that important information is easily located and understood.



photo by Bill Merculie

PLE funded project

Poverty Law Newsletter

With the help of a public legal education grant, End Legislated Poverty has been producing a regular newsletter for low-income people. The newsletter contains information about housing, welfare rights, changes in legislation and where people can go to get help with a problem.

About 1,000 copies of the newsletter are distributed each month. In December 1987, the first Spanish edition of the newsletter was published.

PLE funded project

Let's Talk About It

The South Peace Community Resources Society brought together representatives from all agencies in the Dawson Creek area that offer services to family members experiencing violence in the home.

With the help of a public legal education grant, this inter-agency team carried out a public awareness and information campaign about wife assault called *Let's Talk About It*.

The team set up information depots at two shopping malls, prepared radio announcements, printed posters and developed a Women's Services Directory that was made available in medical clinics, schools, community agencies and the local college.

The campaign had three key messages:

- Wife assault is a crime.
- Wife abuse affects every member of the family.
- If you are in an abusive situation, you do have some choices.

PLE funded project

Court Interpreting Workshop

This workshop will be useful to you if:
• You would like to acquire interpreting skills; or
• You would like to improve your interpreting skills; or
• You are a professional who uses interpretative services.

Workshop Fee: \$5.00
Dates: Friday, February 19,
7:00-9:00 p.m.
at Kamloops Immigrant Services,
#307 - 141 Victoria St. and
Saturday, February 20,
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
at Courthouse Library
488 Columbia Street

Funding provided by:
LEGAL SERVICES SOCIETY OF B.C.

For further information call
KAMLOOPS IMMIGRANT
SERVICES 372-0855

Court Interpreting Workshop

With the help of a public legal education grant, Kamloops Immigrant Services carried out a two-day workshop on court interpretation.

The purpose of the workshop was to provide training to volunteer court interpreters and to sensitize the people in the legal system to the role of the interpreter and some of the cultural difficulties encountered in interpretation.

The 42 participants included staff and volunteers from Kamloops Immigrant Services as well as a local judge, RCMP officer, Crown counsel, defense lawyer and clerk of the court.

The training sessions concluded with interpreters participating in a simulated trial in a Kamloops courtroom.

PLE funded project

The Westcoast Reader

The Westcoast Reader is a monthly newspaper for people who are learning to read English. It is free in British Columbia for teachers, tutors, libraries, multicultural agencies and others involved in teaching English and serves about 80,000 people throughout the province.

The primary goal of the newspaper is to provide those learning to read English with easy-to-read information that is relevant to the readers' interests and needs.

Grant money was provided to help *The Westcoast Reader* publish two legal information supplements to the newspaper — *Children and the Law*, and *Law Suits: Information on Suing and Being Sued*.

I NEED LEGAL ADVICE.
I WANT TO SUE
THE DRIVER.



Illustration by Dennis Smith, *Westcoast Reader*

Legal Resource Centre

The Legal Resource Centre carries out three major tasks:

1. It serves as a law library for the general public, the Society's staff and its funded agencies. The centre has books, pamphlets, magazines, films and videotapes on law and law-related subjects, as well as the B.C. and Canadian statutes and regulations.
2. The centre operates a telephone legal information service for the general public — the Law Line. Law Line librarians respond by helping identify the caller's problem, providing legal information, sending print information and, where necessary, referring the caller to a lawyer or appropriate agency.
3. For public libraries around the province, the centre provides funding for the purchase of legal materials, legal reference training for library staff, and a quarterly News-

letter to alert libraries to changes in legislation, new materials and legal referral services.

1987/88 Highlights

- The Legal Resource Centre staff responded to a total of 17,994 inquiries; of these, 16,483 were inquiries through the Law Line, an average of 14.6 calls per hour.
- 19 workshops were held this year, attended by 243 public librarians, community workers, students and the general public.
- Grants totalling \$35,000 were given to 37 public library systems, representing 89 communities in B.C., to help purchase legal materials.
- In October 1987, the Legal Resource Centre made a submission to the Task Force on new approaches to public consultation in public libraries established by the B.C. Ministry of Tourism, Recreation and Culture.

Schools Program

The purpose of the Schools Program is to promote education about the law in British Columbia. Our major audience is secondary school teachers and students.

Major activities of the program include:

- publishing resource materials
- presenting workshops
- publishing *Legal Perspectives*, a bi-monthly magazine for B.C. teachers
- maintaining a link with educational and legal organizations and government departments to support and develop law-related education.



photo by Helen Krupenkov

1987/88 Highlights

- *Legal Perspectives* had over 3,400 subscribers — an increase of 10 per cent over last year. In response to teacher suggestions, the five themes for the year were: The Charter and Equality, Sex and the Law, Dissent/Civil Disobedience, Refugees, and B.C. Labour Law.
- 24 workshops were presented for teachers and students around the province. Topics included: the Young Offenders Act, consumer law, the Constitution, and law in the new Social Studies curriculum.
- The Law Game, a board game originally designed as a review of criminal and tort law, was expanded to include labour and consumer law.
- Three resource materials were revised to reflect changes in the law: *The Family Law Casebook*, *In Whose Best Interest?* and a set of wall charts on B.C.'s court system.
- The Law 12 curriculum is being revised, and Schools Program staff are assisting in the process in an advisory capacity.

Development of new resource materials continues to focus on the law component in the new Social Studies curriculum, Grades 8 to 11.

NATIVE PROGRAMS

Native Programs funded project



photo by Chris Cameron

NO'XYA' (Our Footprints)

Since "time out of memory" the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en peoples of the Skeena and Bulkley River valleys have preserved and passed on their history to succeeding generations through dance and drama, song and art. In keeping with this tradition of oral and visual communication, the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en Tribal Council and Headlines Theatre co-produced a play titled NO'XYA' (Our Footprints). The Legal Services Society was one of the funders of this unique project.

NO'XYA' is about land claims. Its purpose is to educate the public about this critical issue, as well as to entertain and to celebrate a rich cultural heritage.

Native and non-native people worked together to research, write and produce the play, and to bring it to 42 locations around the province. In the tradition of the Feast Hall, the troupe hosted a discussion with the guests following each performance.

In 1988 the company will go on a national tour, bringing its message to 30 communities across Canada.

Native people face unique legal problems and procedures by virtue of their unique constitutional relationship to the Canadian legal system. The Native Programs branch of the Legal Services Society works to ensure that the overall delivery of legal services is consistent with native people's needs.

The Native Programs branch:

- develops native law materials on topics identified by native groups
- funds native public legal education projects
- distributes information on resource materials to a mailing list of approximately 600 which includes all bands, tribal councils, native courtworkers, friendship centres, band social workers, urban and provincial native groups
- acts somewhat like a native legal resource centre for anyone interested in native law matters
- funds four native community law offices and three native friendship centres.

The Legal Services Society recognizes and supports native Indian community control and responsibility in the delivery of legal services to native people. It recognizes that services are best provided by the community, through local offices, with financial support from the Legal Services Society.

The offices provide services in the area of criminal, family and civil law, as well as duty counsel and area director services. The staff carry out a very active program of legal education through workshops and lectures in schools and at band levels.

For a complete listing of offices, please see the back page of this report.

1987/88 Highlights

- The branch has been collecting information on native people's use of legal services for a year, and now has some preliminary data. The information will be useful for developing policy and planning the delivery of legal services to native people.
- During the past year the program funded ten public legal education projects.
- The program conducted an evaluation of the six native law handbooks published last year. Survey results indicate the handbooks provide useful, much-needed information for band administrators and employees, as well as lawyers and paralegals doing work in areas of native law. Plans are under way to revise and reprint the series, taking into account suggestions made in the survey.
- The Kermode Friendship Centre in Terrace was appointed to serve as an area director. This means that people living in the Terrace area now have a local office whose director will accept applications for legal aid and will then find lawyers for people who are eligible.
- Two booklets were developed on the topic of working with Indian witnesses and clients. The booklets have been used in cross-cultural awareness workshops for staff lawyers, and the Native Programs branch is exploring ways in which the materials could be used elsewhere in the legal system.
- The Society has approached the Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council about setting up a family court duty counsel project in the Prince George area. Discussions have begun with the community to determine what the need is and how such a project might work for the Carrier-Sekani people.

Native Programs funded project

You Have A Choice

The Canyon City Health Committee was granted funds to hold a conference examining child abuse, spousal assault and substance abuse. The conference was the first of its kind for the Nass valley. The committee felt there was a need to know what help is available for the victims of abuse and for the abusers. Over 70 people participated in the three-day event titled *You Have A Choice*. The legal, social, psychological, educational and medical aspects of each of the issues were examined. Following the presentations and discussion, each day ended with a summary and recommendations.

Applications Made, by Office

April 1, 1987 - March 31, 1988

Branch Offices Legal Services Society

Location	Criminal Matters	Family Matters	Other Civil Matters	Total
Burnaby	3,084	1,010	327	4,421
Campbell River	689	1,024	853	2,566
Chilliwack	1,114	621	453	2,188
Dawson Creek	406	319	282	1,007
Fort St. John	284	211	100	595
Head Office	252	61	10	323
Kamloops	1,545	1,148	1,068	3,761
Kelowna	714	776	606	2,096
Langley	679	393	195	1,267
Nanaimo	1,324	920	484	2,728
Nelson	425	467	246	1,138
Prince George	1,936	1,169	443	3,548
Prince Rupert	425	229	141	795
Prison Services	157	34	459	650
Surrey	1,644	1,425	553	3,622
Vancouver	10,093	2,874	3,395	16,362
Williams Lake	396	260	279	935
Branch Office Subtotal	25,167	12,941	9,894	48,002

Community Law Offices Native Community Law Offices, Friendship Centres

Location	Criminal Matters	Family Matters	Other Civil Matters	Total
Abbotsford	1,122	743	613	2,478
Burns Lake	198	96	112	406
Fort Nelson	93	135	176	404
Ft. St. John Friendship Ctr.	0	23	122	145
Hazelton	242	159	362	763
Masset	79	64	266	409
Merritt	220	181	417	818
Nanaimo CLO	0	19	955	974
New Westminster	0	1,059	2,325	3,384
Penticton	563	539	696	1,798
Port Alberni	6	14	89	109
Powell River	262	246	376	884
Quesnel	444	391	743	1,578
Skidegate	39	78	753	870
Smithers	339	169	156	664
Victoria	3,060	2,321	2,029	7,410
Agencies Subtotal	6,667	6,237	10,190	23,094

Applications continued.

Area Directors

Location	Criminal Matters	Family Matters	Other Civil Matters	Total
Chetwynd	0	29	7	36
Cranbrook	290	151	47	488
Delta	3	4	0	7
Duncan	308	372	36	716
Gibsons	169	75	4	248
Golden	39	23	0	62
Kaslo	0	2	0	2
Ladysmith	7	3	0	10
Lillooet	162	13	0	175
Maple Ridge	202	142	53	397
Nakusp	10	7	1	18
North Vancouver	623	313	39	975
Parksville	11	11	2	24
Port Alberni	20	1	0	21
Revelstoke	144	110	147	401
Richmond	508	407	13	928
Salmon Arm	157	126	14	297
Sparwood	21	13	2	36
Squamish	219	74	7	300
Terrace	460	135	11	606
Vernon	522	488	128	1,138
Area Directors Subtotal	3,875	2,499	511	6,885
TOTAL ALL OFFICES	35,709	21,677	20,595	77,981

Auditor's Report

To the Chairman and Members of the
Legal Services Society, and

To the Attorney General,
Province of British Columbia

I have examined the balance sheet of the Legal Services Society as at March 31, 1988 and the statements of income and expenditures and accumulated income over expenditures for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Society as at March 31, 1988 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles described in note 2 to the financial statements applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



George L. Morfitt, F.C.A.
Auditor General

Victoria, British Columbia
May 30, 1988

Legal Services Society Balance Sheet as at March 31, 1988

ASSETS

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1987</u>
Cash and term deposits	\$5,173,536	\$3,314,106
Accounts receivable — related parties	179,833	112,470
— other	75,314	33,935
Prepaid expenses	72,804	73,771
	<u>\$5,501,487</u>	<u>\$3,534,282</u>

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable — general	\$ 360,210	\$ 284,969
— tariff	3,460,079	2,197,208
Professional staff benefit plan	247,323	241,300
	<u>4,067,612</u>	<u>2,723,477</u>

ACCUMULATED INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES

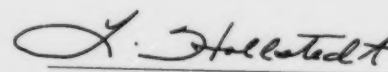
Unappropriated	—	810,805
Reserve for tariff expenditures	1,433,875	—
	<u>1,433,875</u>	<u>810,805</u>
	<u>\$5,501,487</u>	<u>\$3,534,282</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Board:



B. Cohen
Vice-Chairman



L. Hollstedt
Director

Legal Services Society
Statement
of Income and
Expenditures

For the Year Ended
March 31, 1988

INCOME

Grants

	1988	1987
Province of British Columbia	\$19,427,467	\$18,235,513
Law Foundation — regular	3,000,000	3,171,848
— supplement	—	518,763
Notary Foundation	199,796	—
	<u>22,627,263</u>	<u>21,926,124</u>

Other Income

Interest	452,117	156,825
Legal costs recovered from clients	81,879	98,608
Publications	22,732	22,418
Miscellaneous	5,595	6,676
	<u>562,323</u>	<u>284,527</u>
	<u>23,189,586</u>	<u>22,210,651</u>

EXPENDITURES

Area directors	104,700	99,389
Board expenses	27,124	19,672
Computer	132,909	150,049
Duty counsel	647,799	635,806
Grants and contracted services	2,318,640	2,167,073
Libraries	106,583	86,447
Miscellaneous	83,025	72,028
Office	548,580	530,533
Premises	437,610	457,548
Publications	81,756	93,178
Salaries and benefits	4,766,430	4,404,380
Tariffs	12,899,553	11,253,265
Transcripts	209,015	276,631
Travel	202,792	183,007
	<u>22,566,516</u>	<u>20,429,006</u>

**EXCESS OF INCOME OVER
EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR**

<u>\$ 623,070</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,645</u>
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Legal Services Society
Statement of
Accumulated
Income Over
Expenditures

For the Year Ended
March 31, 1988

**UNAPPROPRIATED ACCUMULATED INCOME
OVER EXPENDITURES < ACCUMULATED
EXPENDITURES OVER INCOME >**

	1988	1987
Balance — beginning of year	\$ 810,805	\$ <970,840>
Excess of income over expenditures	<u>623,070</u>	<u>1,781,645</u>
	1,433,875	810,805
Reserve for tariff expenditures	<u>1,433,875</u>	—
Balance — end of year	<u>—</u>	<u>810,805</u>

RESERVE FOR TARIFF EXPENDITURES

Balance — beginning of year	—	—
Appropriated during the year	<u>1,433,875</u>	—
Balance — end of year	<u>1,433,875</u>	—

**ACCUMULATED INCOME
OVER EXPENDITURES**

<u>\$1,433,875</u>	<u>\$ 810,805</u>
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Legal Services Society

Notes to the

Financial

Statements

**For the Year Ended
March 31, 1988**

1. Organizational objectives

Under the Legal Services Society Act the objects of the Society are to ensure that:

- (a) services ordinarily provided by a lawyer are afforded to individuals who would not otherwise receive them because of financial or other reasons; and
- (b) education, advice and information about law are provided for the people of British Columbia.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles except that:

- property and equipment are recorded as operating expenditures at the time of acquisition; and
- client contributions and awarded costs are recorded on a cash basis.

3. Commitments

The Society has commitments under long-term operating leases for the following:

	<u>OFFICE PREMISES</u>	<u>COMPUTER EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1989	\$246,449	\$ 7,585	\$254,034
1990	183,244	—	183,244
1991	139,496	—	139,496
1992	100,878	—	100,878
1993	8,287	—	8,287
	<u>\$678,354</u>	<u>\$ 7,585</u>	<u>\$685,939</u>

The Society's head office premises are provided at a reduced rent. The difference between the market value of the rent and the rent paid is approximately \$228,000 a year. These premises are provided under an agreement that expires on May 31, 1999.

4. Reserve for tariff expenditures

By resolution on June 22, 1988, the Board of Directors of the Society appropriated the accumulated excess of income over expenditures of the Society as a reserve for tariff expenditures.

5. Related parties

In 1988, the Society received 84% (1987 - 82%) of its income from the Province of British Columbia and 13% (1987 - 17%) of its income from the Law Foundation of British Columbia. The Society depends on funding from these two sources for the continuance of its operations.

Under cost sharing agreements approximately 50% of the Society's expenditures on legal aid are recoverable by the Province of British Columbia from the Government of Canada.

The Province pays certain telephone and postage costs of the Society and provides audit services that are not included in the expenditures. In 1988, these costs amounted to \$246,091 (1987 - \$207,100).

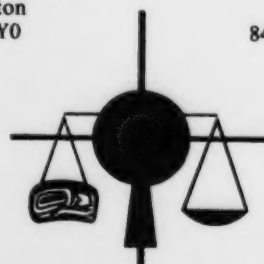
Legal Services Society Branch Offices

Burnaby 344-5021 Kingsway V5H 4A5	437-4432
Campbell River No. 2-912 Island Highway V9W 5A7	287-9521
Chilliwack No. 5-9360 Mill Street V2P 4N2	792-7264
Dawson Creek 1101-B-103rd Avenue V1G 2G8	782-5911/2
Fort St. John B9822-101st Avenue V1J 2B2	785-5674/5
Kamloops Regional Law Centre 510 - 175 2nd Avenue V2C 5W1	374-7777
Kelowna 1262 St. Paul Street V1Y 2C9	763-8804
Nanaimo Upper Floor 10 Esplanade V9R 4Y7	753-0271
Nelson 550 Stanley Street V1L 1N2	352-3147
Prince George 302-1488 Fourth Avenue V2L 4Y2	562-4445
Prince Rupert 737 West 2nd Avenue V8J 1H4	627-1364
Surrey No. 308, 15225-104th Avenue V3R 6Y8	584-8535
Vancouver No. 2-195 Alexander Street V6A 1N3	687-1831
Williams Lake 208-197 North 2nd Avenue V2G 1Z5	392-2941
Prison Services Project 2406 Montrose Avenue Abbotsford V2S 3S9	853-8712
Langley Paralegal Project 213-20226 Fraser Highway V3A 4E6	530-5811



Community Law Offices

Abbotsford Community Services Society 2406 Montrose Avenue V2S 3S9 or toll free	859-7681 530-3514
Fort Nelson Paralegal Project Bag 399 Fort Nelson, B.C. V0C 1R0	774-6707
Doug Trill Law Centre Upper Floor 10 Esplanade Nanaimo V9R 4Y7	753-0271
Westminster Community Legal Services Society 805-12th Street New Westminster V3M 4K2	524-0381
Penticton Legal Services Suite 103-304 Martin Street V2A 5K4	493-0210
Powell River Legal Services 7053 Glacier Street V8A 5J7	485-9871
Quesnel Human Rights & Civil Liberties Association 283 Barlow Avenue V2J 2B9	992-8391
The Law Centre Association of Victoria 3rd Floor-1221 Broad Street V8W 2A4	388-4516
Burns Lake Yinkandinee Keyakh Law Centre Society P.O. Box 8000 492 Yellowhead Highway #16 V0J 1E0	692-7534
Fort St. John Indian Friendship Centre 10208-95th Avenue V1J 1J2	785-8566
Haida Counselling & Legal Assistance Society P.O. Box 37 Skidegate Village Queen Charlotte City V0T 1S0 and P.O. Box 130 Block N, Lot 7 Masset Reserve #1 Masset V0T 1M0	559-8810 626-3925
Nicola Valley Native Community Legal Assistance Society Bag 4400 1955 Quilchena Avenue Merritt V0K 2B0	378-6112
Port Alberni Friendship Centre 3555 - 4th Avenue V9Y 4H3	723-8281
Smithers Indian Friendship Centre P.O. Box 2920 3743 Second Avenue V0J 2N0	847-3525
Upper Skeena Counselling & Legal Assistance Society P.O. Box 130 Omenica Street Hazelton V0J 1Y0	842-5218



Note: Addresses are as of March 31, 1988. For current addresses, consult your phone book.